

Dear Senator,

First, I hope that at least some on your committee watched the excellent program on Vermont Public Television last night; Prisons Without Bars, out of Quebec. If not, please watch it before you decide to minimize any rights and protections that you can offer our communities in the siting of towers and/or any other wireless infrastructure.

<https://video.vermontpublic.org/video/prisons-without-bars-npu8m>

EMF radiation can seriously exacerbate other pre-existing health problems, as outlined by McGill University researcher Paul Heroux and others in last night's film. The Vermont Dept. of Health recommends limiting children's exposure to EMF radiation, and there are many scientific papers, including the NH Report on 5G, (pertaining to all wireless technology) which should give you pause and a desire to take the most prudent course in your power.

<https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/reports/5G-final-report>

Section 248a should be made a priority in the beginning of the second half of this biennium. We can't keep blindly accepting the story the industry puts out there, as we have done with glyphosate and cigarettes in the past.

We will very likely have greater issues around our already massive housing crisis if we sign away communities rights and do not look carefully at all the implications of wireless everywhere and the buildout of more "smart" communities. There was a posting on a listserv I'm on a while back from a woman in Burlington who was needing to move due to new wireless infrastructure in her neighborhood, saying, "did anyone know of safe housing?"

In 2004 California firefighters were able to ban towers on their workplaces due to rampant illness. The symptoms that firefighters who participated in the SPECT brain scan study were similar to firefighters in other stations who live in the shadow of cell towers. Of note is, all the men had passed rigorous physical and cognitive exams prior to being hired. <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/10321115021821>
Their symptoms included:

- headaches
- extreme fatigue
- cognitive impairment
- anesthesia-like sleep where the men woke up for 911 calls "as if they were drugged"
- inability to sleep
- depression
- anxiety
- unexplained anger
- immune-suppression manifested as frequent colds and flu-like symptoms

I can't help but wonder if some of the newer issues so common among our school age children, such as anger, anxiety, depression, and immune-suppression which we keep hearing of in the news could be at least partially of the same origin - wireless technology. We are presently in crisis mode with teacher burnout and lack of mental health resources for our youth. Perhaps these pressing concerns families and the schools are facing are not unrelated.

The above mentioned report from the Vermont Dept. of Health's to the legislature on Jan 1, 2020 titled, *The Possible Health Consequences from Exposure to the Radio Frequency Fields Produced by Wireless Technologies, Including Cellular Telephones and FCC Regulated Transmitters*, reads in part "One conclusion that may be drawn from the NTP toxicological and carcinogenic studies is that high levels of RFR from cell phones may be harmful should users be exposed for long hours each day over their entire lifetime. **This reinforces efforts in public health to minimize the dose to RFR, especially to children. A question that arises is whether the NTP study using older 2G and 3G wireless telecommunications RFR is applicable to 5G wireless RFR.**" Your decisions should reflect the Vt Dept. of Health's recommendations over the industry's wishes.

About five years back I asked my now retired allopathic GP's opinion on this issue after I first heard of the potential rollout of 5 G. He told me he'd have patients who would need to leave Vermont if we blanket the state with wireless. Where will they go though? That is the situation of Sylvain and others in Prisons Without Borders.

I understand the difficult task you have parsing the desires of all Vermonters, and legal repercussions we could face, however, I implore you to not let the opportunity pass to safeguard our rights and health. I fear this is going to be another PFOA-like disaster with a huge financial and physical impact. Right now you are in a position to slow things down, all we can do is ask you to use utmost caution. Ideally, Vermont would establish a moratorium on further deployment of this harmful technology until the FCC updates their outdated regulations as ordered by the DC Court of Appeals.

Sincerely,
Martha A. Sirjane
Shrewsbury, VT.